

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO. 11

June 16, 2010

**SUBJECT:** CARRYING OF KNIVES OR UTILITY TOOLS BY SWORN PERSONNEL

**PURPOSE:** Law enforcement personnel are allowed to carry knives when authorized by the Department, per California Penal Code Section 12020 (b) (12) and Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 55.10 (c). This Order adds knives as optional equipment and establishes guidelines for the types of knives that can be carried and methods of carrying them.

**Note:** Special Order No. 34, *Policy on the Optional Carrying of Knives or Utility Tools by Sworn Personnel - Established*, dated July 8, 2009, had previously been rescinded from the Department's Local Area Network on December 1, 2009.

**PROCEDURE:** Sworn personnel may carry a knife with a blade length no longer than **four** inches. A knife or utility tool may be carried, concealed or with only the clip present, when properly secured on the officer's person or on the duty belt inside a smooth black top-grain cowhide leather or comparable material case with a flap closure.

**Note:** A brown leather case may be utilized by officers assigned to plainclothes details. Officers assigned to specialized units may carry knives with longer blades and/or use other options for carrying a knife, when approved by their commanding officers for operational necessity.

**AMENDMENTS:** This Order amends Sections 3/621.20 and 3/627.20 of the Department Manual.

**MONITORING RESPONSIBILITY:** All commanding officers shall have monitoring responsibility for this directive.

**AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY:** The Commanding Officer, Internal Audits and Inspections Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



CHARLIE BECK  
Chief of Police

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